

REMARKS

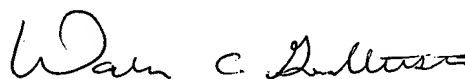
This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated May 18, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on July 18, 2004.

The Examiner states that claims 35-43 are allowed and the application is in condition for allowance except for a formal matter as required under 37 CFR 1.178. The Examiner further states that the original patent, or a statement as to loss or inaccessibility of the original patent must be received before the reissue application can be allowed. In response, Applicant submits herewith a STATEMENT AS TO LOSS OF ORIGINAL PATENT in compliance with 37 CFR 1.178. Also enclosed is a copy of the Patent Assignment and Notice of Recordation of Assignment Document evidencing ownership of reissue application.

CONCLUSION

Having addressed all issues set out in the Office Action, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the reissue application. If the Examiner has any questions, please contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



Walter C. Grollitsch
Registration No. 48,678
MOSER, PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.
3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500
Houston, TX 77056
Telephone: (650) 330-2310
Facsimile: (650) 330-2314
Attorney for Applicant